

Thermal transfer imaging.

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Cited documents:

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Abstract of EP0675003

A method of forming a colour image comprising the steps of:

- (i) assembling in face-to-face contact a) a colourant donor element comprising a thermally transferable colourant and an infrared absorber and b) a receptor element;
 - (ii) subjecting the assembly to image-wise exposure to infrared radiation whereby said radiation is absorbed by the infrared absorber, causing localised heating in the donor element and transfer of colourant to the receptor;
 - (iii) separating the donor element from the image bearing receptor;
 - (iv) optionally repeating steps (i) to (iii) one or more times using donor elements comprising different colourants and the same receptor in order to form a multicolour image;
- in which a thermal bleaching agents capable of bleaching the infrared absorber is present in one or both of the donor and receptor elements, or is brought into contact with the transferred image in a subsequent step.

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